

Attorney Docket: 225/49847

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: FOCKE RASS ET AL.
Serial No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED
Filed: APRIL 16, 2001
Title: VEHICLE LOCK, IN PARTICULAR FOR A TAILGATE DOOR



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 16, 2001

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

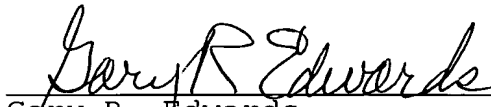
An English abstract summarizing the disclosure of German patent document DE 41 03 142 A1 is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


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